



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yutaka YAMAGATA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1743

Application No.: 09/980,099

Examiner: J. NAGPAUL

Filed: April 18, 2002

Docket No.: 111226

For: DEVICE FOR MANUFACTURING MICROARRAYS

APPLICANTS' SEPARATE RECORD OF PERSONAL INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to the January 17, 2006 personal interview, Applicants provide a separate record of the personal interview. Applicants' representative also appreciates the courtesies extended by Examiners Nagpaul and Warden to Applicants' representative.

During the personal interview, Applicants' representative traversed the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 10-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), and claims 3 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over WO 98/58745 (WO'745). As agreed during the personal interview, page 17, lines 22-32 of WO'745 fail to disclose the masking means of claim 1. Applicants' representative argued that the remaining sections of WO'745 fail to disclose the masking means of claim 1. Examiner Nagpaul stated that she would further review the remaining sections of WO'745 and conduct an updated search.

In view of the foregoing and the Amendment filed December 29, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Scott M. Schulte
Registration No. 44,325

JAO:SMS/sxb

Date: January 19, 2006

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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